

REMARKS

Claim Rejection - 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 10-14 were rejected as being anticipated by Chan '022. This rejection is respectfully traversed and should be withdrawn as the limitation of claim 15 is now included in claim 10.

Claims 10-20 were rejected as being anticipated by Chan '237. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The first named inventor on Chan '237 is Selana Chan, who is one of the named inventors on the pending application. The undersigned discussed Chan '237 with Selana Chan. She explained that the Examiner's position that Chan '237 teaches "a laser light source and a series of lenses to form a gradient force optical trap," i.e., an "optical tweezer" is incorrect. She explained that in Chan '237, the bead is held mechanically by the packed column, not by "a laser light source and a series of lenses to form a gradient force optical trap," as recited in claim 1. The laser light in Chan '237 is used simply for detection purposes and cannot be used to form a gradient force optical trap. On the contrary, in the embodiments of present invention of claim 10, "a laser light source and a series of lenses to form a gradient force optical trap" are used to hold the bead.

Selana Chan has further offered to make the above statements in a Rule 132 Declaration under 37 CFR 1.132. Please advise if such a Declaration is required on the record for the allowance of this case.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Dated: July 19, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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